

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6034

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINR, MY

SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN MFA REORGANIZATION

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 6136

1. FOR MUCH OF HIS TOUR IN NEW YORK (1972-76) AJIT SINGH FUNCTIONED AS DE FACTO HEAD OF HIS MISSION. HE ALSO GAINED CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE AS MALAYSIA'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND FROM HIS PARTICIPATION IN A NUMBER OF UN AND NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES. HE WAS HIGHLY RESPECTED BY HIS COUNTERPARTS IN THE ASEAN MISSIONS HERE AND HAD A WIDE RANGE OF CLOSE CONTACTS AMONG OTHER THIRD WORLD DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK. HE WORKED CLOSELY WITH USUN POLITICAL OFFICERS WHO ALWAYS FOUND HIM TO BE WELL INFORMED AND CANDID.

2. AT OTHER POSTS WHERE USUN OFFICERS HAVE WORKED WITH HIM (ADDIS ABABA, TOKYO), HE HAS APPEARED TO ESTABLISH EASY CREDENTIALS AS ONE OF THE STRONGEST ASEAN REPRESENTATIVES AND HAS BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE, SOCIALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY, IN WORKING WITH NON-ALIGNED REPRESENTATIVES. HIS DISPOSITION TO BE HELPFUL TO US IN NEW YORK AND ELSEWHERE OFTEN BROUGHT PRIVATE COMMENTS OF VALUE ABOUT ASEAN RELATIONSHIPS, MALAYSIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD THE HOST GOVERNMENT, AND VIEWS OF THE THIRD WORLD TOWARD MOSCOW AND PEKING. HE HAS APPEARED TO BE PERSONALLY INCLINED AGAINST BOTH OF THE MAJOR COMMUNIST POWERES. IN 1975, HE WAS OUTRAGED BY DIRECT NORTH KOREAN THREATS AND PRESSURES DURING COMMITTEE I VOTING. HE REPORTEDLY WAS NOT AFRAID TO
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SPEAK UP AGAINST A MAINSTREAM OF OPINION IN NEW YORK

MEETINGS OF THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

3.MR. SINGH APPEARED TO ENJOY LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT HE WAS DISAPPOINTED OVER ALOOFNESS OF NEIGHBORS WHEN HE LIVED IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY. HE EVENTUALLY MOVED TO A MANHATTAN APARTMENT NEAR THE UN. HE IS A KEEN GOLFER. HE WAS ENERGETIC AND EVIDENTLY ENJOYED EXCELLENT HEALTH AND PHYSICAL CONDITION. SINGH AND HIS WIFE, AMY, HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS, ADRIENNE AND ANNETTE, AND A SON, ALAN.

4. MISS TING WEN LIEN IS LESS WELL KNOWN TO USUN BUT OFFICERS WHO HAVE DEALT WITH HER SHARE THE OPINION SHE IS A COMPETENT JUNIOR OFFICER AND IS A RESPONSIBLE AND WELL INFORMED REPRESENTATIVE OF HER COUNTRY.
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